

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Douglas Keithley

Serial No.: 10/635,073

Examiner: Faulk, Devona E.

Filing Date: August 6, 2003

Group Art Unit: 2615

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR VOLUME CONTROL

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- (a) ☒ Under 37 CFR 1.97(b).  
(Within three months of the filing date of the national application or date of entry of the national stage, before the mailing of the first Office Action on the merits, including a first Office Action following an RCE whichever occurs last).
- (b) ☐ Under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with **either** a:  
☐ Statement under CFR 1.97(e), or  
☐ \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p).  
(After the CFR 1.97(b) time period, but before the mailing date of the Final Action, Notice of Allowance, or action closing prosecution).
- (c) ☐ Under 37 CFR 1.97(d) together with: a  
Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), **and**  
\$180.00 fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).  
(After the CFR 1.97(c) time period, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee).

☐ STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)

The undersigned certifies that:

- ☐ Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement, **or**
- ☐ No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

☐ PRIOR APPLICATIONS

References identified with an asterisk (\*) in the enclosed PTO Form 1449, were disclosed in prior Patent Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, now U.S. Patent No. \_\_\_\_\_, and, as such, copies thereof are not included pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.98(d).

☐ FOREIGN LANGUAGE DOCUMENTS

A concise explanation of the relevance of foreign language patents, foreign language publications and other foreign language information listed on PTO form 1449, as presently understood by the individual(s) designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content is given on the attached sheet, or where a foreign language patent is cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, an English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is listed on form PTO 1449 and is enclosed herewith.

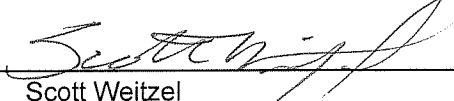
☒ **FEE AUTHORIZATION**

Please charge to Deposit Account **50-3718** the sum of \$0.00. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account **50-3718** pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Keithley

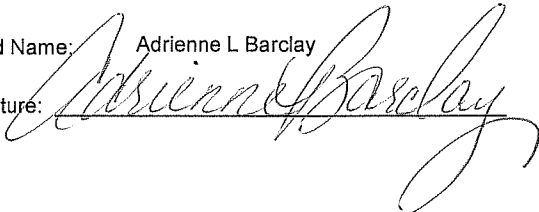
By

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Weitzel  
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

☒ I hereby certify that this paper is being electronically transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents on the date shown below.

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